

Stella

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The **Stella** (Scholar Language: *Astrolirus monstruosus*, aep Dartha, 1360), named after the trail it leaves behind as it moves through the water using the acid it secretes, also known as **Sucker**, is a monster resembling a giant starfish that inhabits the world's oceans.

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Discovery

The monster is believed to have existed at least since the [First Conjunction of the Spheres](#), since there are several legends of the Great Sea Civilization that mention similar creatures. However, its official discovery did not occur until 1360, 20

Stella



Taxonomy

Monster Classification	Asteroidean
Danger Level	High
Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Echinodermata
Class	Asteroidea
Order	Brisingida
Family	Brisingidae

years before the founding of the [Crane School](#), when his founder, [Putnam Pitch](#), saved the life of the Etolian biologist, Thasior aep Dartha, who had hired Pitch to protect him during a research he was conducting on the coast of Etolia, on the local coastal and marine fauna.

Appearance

Stella resembles other sea stars of the *Astrolirus* genus. It possesses an orange-pink hue; however, it is significantly larger and appears less delicate than other members of the genus, such as *Astrolirus patricki*. The filaments present in *A. patricki* are replaced by a series of spines more closely attached to its body and less outwardly protruding. These spines serve both as a defensive barrier against predators and as an anchoring mechanism that allows the creature to "latch" onto rock surfaces, preventing both predators and ocean currents from dislodging it.

Habitat and Behavior

The stella inhabits the deep zones of the ocean, though it does not reach abyssal depths. Despite its size, it has a relatively low body weight, which—combined with the acid it uses for propulsion—allows it to move through the water at remarkable speeds. It typically feeds on large fish and other marine predators such as sharks or saltwater crocodiles. The same acid used

Genus	Astrolirus
Related Species	Abyssal Stella Coral Stella
Physiology	
Height	Approximately the size of a wyvern, they may vary in height depending on the subspecies
Length	Approximately the length of a large fishing boat, they can vary in size depending on the subspecies
Weight	Lightweight, in spite of their size, their internal composition makes them light, allowing them to move very fast in the ocean
Ecology	
Lifespan	Decades
Intelligence	Beast level
Nature	Aggressive
Range	Oceans of the world , mostly the Great Sea and Mad Sea occasionally coasts if they are swept away by currents
Habitat	Oceans
Diet	Carnivore
Prey	From big fishes to other marine predators such as sharks or saltwater crocodiles. Occasionally, humans, mainly from fishing boats or larger vessels like the ones making the route from Novigrad to Cherdian
Predators	Unknown In some way, School of the Crane Witches

for movement doubles as a predatory tool, helping it break down and consume prey—especially those with protective outer layers.

It rarely attacks humans, but when it does, it usually targets small vessels, mistaking them for prey like sharks. In some cases, it may even mistake large ships for whale-like creatures, latching onto their hulls and using its acid to corrode wood in order to access potential food sources.

Abilities

There is a very popular myth that says stellas are so hot that everything they touch, they burn, liquefy, and cook on contact. But this myth, similar to the myths surrounding monsters like basilisks, is false, although in this case, there is some truth to it.

What actually happens is that stellas are capable of exuding a highly corrosive acid, which can create the illusion of the fiery and destructive touch described in the myth. This acid serves multiple purposes for stellas, primarily as a tool for subduing and consuming their prey.

When they encounter potential victims, stellas employ their corrosive acid as a powerful weapon. It allows them to weaken their prey by causing damage to their outer layers after they have immobilized them with their arms. This acid normally leaves a stela in the sea, which is the reason why they receive this name as named before. This acid is not only useful for incapacitating their quarry but also plays a pivotal role in the process of digestion. The corrosive properties of the acid facilitate the breakdown of their captured prey, making it easier for stellas to extract vital nutrients from their meals.

Slaying

To kill a stella, the best option is to do so on land. While they are capable of movement on solid ground, it is much more difficult for them. However, due to their aquatic nature, it is rare for them to reach the shore; when they do, it is usually because they were dragged in by particularly strong ocean currents.

Most [witchers](#) from the [School of the Crane](#), given their specialization in aerial and aquatic monsters, tend to eliminate them when they latch onto a ship. The standard Crane School protocol, as with other sea monsters, is applied:

preparing a long rope—one end tied to the ship's mast and the other to a tightly fitted protective suit that covers the entire body except for the hands—along with the ingestion of [Killer Whale](#) potion, since such battles can be prolonged. This is typically combined with [Blizzard](#), as well as the use of [signs](#) like Quen for protection, Volun to stun the Stella with a lightning strike (which, for obvious reasons, is more effective underwater), and Thermora, whose wave of heat acts as an underwater equivalent to Igni. Once stunned, the monster is dismembered.

However, since stella, like other starfish, can regenerate from severed limbs—sometimes even reproducing into multiple new individuals—Thermora is applied after dismemberment to ensure death by heat shock.

When dealing with one on land, a similar procedure is followed, but Thermora is replaced with Igni, and a special oil crafted for the Asteroidean-class monsters is applied to the silver blade.

Trivia

- Based on the [Stella](#)^[↗] from Mediterranean Folklore.



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